

Claims

1. A combined trouser press and ironing board assembly comprising a heatable pad against which a surface of a pressure plate is clampable in a first pressing position to sandwich a garment to be pressed therebetween, the pressure plate being mounted by means that allow said plate to be moved relative to the heatable pad into a second ironing position in which the pressure plate extends laterally outwardly relative to the heatable pad such that the surface of the pressure plate facing the heatable pad in said first position now forms the surface on which a garment can be placed for ironing.
2. An assembly as claimed in claim 1 wherein the assembly includes a body housing the heatable pad and the pressure plate, one end of said pressure plate being pivotally attached to the body whereby said plate can pivot about said one end towards and away from the heatable pad.
3. An assembly as claimed in claim 2 comprising guide means which allow said one end of the pressure plate to slide along opposite side edges of the heatable pad so that the pressure plate can be moved into said second ironing position.
4. An assembly as claimed in claim 3 wherein said guide means comprises a slot along each side edge of the heatable pad.
5. An assembly as claimed in any of claims 2-4 wherein a support leg extends between the pressure plate and the body to support the pressure plate in said second ironing position.
6. An assembly as claimed in claim 5 wherein one end of said leg is pivotally attached to the body adjacent the base thereof, the opposite end of said leg being slidably mounted in the underside of the pressure plate to be longitudinally slidable therealong.

7. An assembly as claimed in claim 5 or claim 6 wherein a secondary stay is pivotally attached at one end to the support leg intermediate the opposite ends thereof, the other end having a foot thereon.

5 8. An assembly as claimed in claim 7 wherein said secondary stay is received in a recess in the support leg.

9. An assembly as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein a secondary linking member extends between the housing and the stay.

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10. An assembly according to any of claims 6 to 9, including a mechanism to assist a user move the pressure plate into the second position.

11. An assembly according to claim 10, wherein the mechanism includes a spring
15 in the support leg having one end attached to the leg and the other end attached to the pressure plate via a flexible cord, the spring being held in tension by the cord when the pressure plate is in its first position such that, as the pressure plate is moved into its second position, the tension in the spring gradually reduces and helps the user draw the pressure plate into said second position.

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12. An assembly as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the pressure plate is hollow and in the surface on which garments are to be ironed has a plurality of apertures therein.

25 13. An assembly as claimed in claim 12, wherein the hollow pressure plate communicates with extractor means housed in the body operable to draw steam generated during ironing from the hollow interior of the pressure plate.

30 14. An assembly as claimed in claim 13, wherein the extractor means comprises a fan connected by ducting to the hollow interior of the pressure plate when said plate is in its secondary ironing position.

15. An assembly as claimed in claim 14, including a base plate on which to place the sole plate of the iron in a stowed position, the base plate having holes therein through which steam generated by the iron is drawn into the duct when the fan is in operation.

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16. An assembly as claimed in claim 15, including a valve member in the duct movable between a first position in which steam is drawn only from the pressure plate into the duct by the fan and a second position in which the steam is drawn only from the iron through the base plate into the duct by the fan, the valve member moving into said second position when the iron is placed on the base plate.

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17. An assembly as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the extractor means include a condenser unit to remove liquid from steam drawn into the duct by the extractor fan.

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18. An assembly as claimed in claim 17, wherein a water reservoir is housed within the body to collect condensate from the condenser unit.

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19. An assembly as claimed in any of claims 2-18, wherein a pressurised steam boiler is housed within the body, said boiler being connected to a steam outlet to which a steam iron or brush can be connected.

20. An assembly as claimed in claim 19, wherein a duct connects the water reservoir with the boiler.

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21. An assembly according to any preceding claim, wherein the pressure plate includes a pair of laterally extending retractable arms having clips at the ends thereof for gripping garments placed on the pressure plate.

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22. An assembly as claimed in any of claims 2-21, wherein the body has a pair of wheels rotatably mounted thereon.

23. An assembly as claimed in any of claims 2-22, wherein a retractable power cable is housed in the body.